

VR Transition Committee Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2010
Lincoln VR Field Office

1. Jack informed committee members of a Wal-Mart grant to ARC and Ollie Webb Center in Omaha. There will be \$25,000 available the next 2 years, working with OPS, focusing on the DD population. Students and parents will be surveyed to determine needs/concerns. Jack also discussed the Alliance for Full Participation, a DD grant from the State. Dennis King and Jack will work together on this project. The focus is to increase the number of DD consumers who are employed (versus workshop).
2. The SRC transition sub-committee needs to develop a Mission Statement. It would be helpful to advise them – please submit any ideas to Jack.
3. ESU 1 in Wakefield started having parents sign a release form to specifically test for Borderline Intellectual Functioning. The school psychologist cannot diagnosis BIF, but this release form could serve as documentation for eligibility to the VR Transition program.
4. Mark Schultz wrote a letter that staff can copy and give to their school contacts regarding the request for internet access for VR staff while at schools.
5. There will be a slight change to the TR consent form in the section explaining consent to exchange information. “ESU staff” will be added to this section.
6. Mark has approved the TR Orientation Powerpoint developed by Jack. Kristi Berst will be working with Kelli from the marketing team and a NYLC member to do the voice over. Once the Powerpoint is ready, more instructions will follow. TR specialists will be responsible for talking to their school contacts to get approval to link it to the school website. The purpose of the Powerpoint is outreach for parents/students.
7. During case reviews, Don Crouch noticed the HELPS form missing in a number of cases moved from Transitions to the adult program. Reminded staff that the HELPS form is required; however, the Employment Discussion is not. Jack will check with Keri Bennett to see if the HELPS form is required if verification is TBI. Ryan Stamm’s team has been piloting an alternative HELPS screening form. Jack will also send out a draft of an alternative form that he received from Keri for the committee to review.
8. Reviewed the September TR data run. Staff have until the end of December of the student’s graduating year to close files. The next run will be in January 2011. Closed TR cases that return for services should be activated into the I&R program, so that the referral source is indicated as TR/secondary school. Jack will talk to Cheryl Ferree about developing a VRIS update regarding this.
9. Janet reviewed the Evaluation Committee notes. Looking into the possibility of ordering the COMPASS test to administer on PC’s as well as Mac Fusions. We have a free 90 day trial. The ASSET is going off Ability to Benefit tests as of 1/1/11. The committee is looking into training for job analysis. Metro Community College in Omaha does not allow calculator use during administration of the COMPASS.
10. Jack will be sending a flow chart showing the process for referring students in the VR Transition program or in the adult VR program to VR, ATP, and ATP/Education.
11. The recommendations from the Post Secondary Committee were submitted to Mark last week and will be presented to the SRC this coming week. Discussed the committee’s recommendations.
12. Discussed in detail the proposal for Priority in Order of Selection. We do have verbal approval from the Feds to serve no costs cases (staff based services only), if it comes

to that, in Priority 3. All staff felt that training for ranking Priority groups 1, 2, and 3 would be crucial.

13. The Placement Committee is looking at the issue of pre-employment questionnaires/behavioral screenings for employment, such as Wal-Mart administers during their application process. Answering these questions appropriately is an issue for both Transition students and consumers in the adult program.
14. Ryan handed out copies of the monthly tour schedule they are offering to their seniors. The information is given to school contacts, posted on their TR blog, and also mailed to parents. Students provide their own transportation, not the school. Just one student attended the first tour, but they had to limit the second tour at 21 students. The school is using it as an excused absence for post secondary planning. Katie talked about the project with Wal-Mart in North Platte. It has been going very well and has created positive national exposure. Denise mentioned that Frank Koch and Jim Coyle have been meeting with CCC/GI and local electrical companies to develop an electrical training program that would begin the fall of 2011. Shelley mentioned a similar project for industrial in the Columbus area. Project Search at the Norfolk Hospital is going well with 5 students doing very well. Shelley also mentioned a project at North Star entitled, "Holy Cow! What Now?"
15. Jack talked about a survey the SRC did with schools about 3 years ago. He discussed a proposal to complete another survey where he would either visit the school in person or by phone to discuss any concerns. It would be helpful to be able to provide a few short success stories for students who started in the TR programs and progressed to competitive employment. Would be ideal to include success stories for a variety of disabled students including LD, physical, mental health, etc.
16. The next meeting is scheduled for January 20th. If the video conferencing equipment is not operable by that date, the meeting will be held at Chances R in York.